

## Minutes

### **Mt Lebanon Historic Preservation Board**

Monday, August 15, 2016, 5 p.m., Mt Lebanon Municipal Building

**Attendance:** Joel Cluskey, chair; Ben Wetmore, Yvette Yescas, Jonathan Hill, Jim Martin, John Bendel, commission liaison; Susan Morgans, staff liaison. **Absent:** Anna Siefken, Michelle Zmijanac

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Joel Clucked called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS** There was no citizen comment.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES** The June minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **REPORTS:**

**Historical Society:** Joel Cluskey reported that the bids had come in higher than projected and the project will be rebid in two phases. First phase, to go out for bid September 12, will be the roof, demolition, clear-out of debris and some work on exterior. Once that work is done, contractors bidding on the second phase will have a better idea of what they are bidding on and the safety factor should not be such a major concern.

**Brick Streets:** Yvette Yescas said the final report from the PennDOT consultant adds pictures and recommends considering decisions in cooperation with the historic preservation board. All the board's concerns were addressed and it is a good final protocol for making future decisions.

John Bendel said that at the end of July the Commission had a discussion on infrastructure and brick streets will be a part of it. There is a temporary hold on replacing the Midway brick. They Commission decided to put together a working group to put together a brick street policy. It will include Rudy Sukal, Ian McMeans, Susan Morgans, Gateway Engineers and Yvette Yescas, if her schedule permits. Key is determining the true life cycle cost of brick vs. asphalt and get to a precise answer using data and other studies. There also will be some aesthetic analysis of the value of brick streets. Group seeks to find

experts who have looked into brick streets on an analytical as opposed to anecdotal way.

Jonathan Hill suggested that perhaps less traveled brick streets do not need to be in as good condition as heavily traveled ones.

Jim Martin asked if the board could look into available grants for brick streets, as Bill Callahan from the PHMC had suggested there might be grant money for a demonstration project.

**Neighborhood Entry Signs** Susan Morgans reported that the solicitor has refined the sign policy. She will find out if any more public input is needed.

**Historic Sign Policy** Public Works has budgeted \$5000 over the next two years for historic signage. We do not know yet whether this will be funded; however, it makes sense to move ahead with design and a plan for placement. Jim Martin volunteered to survey the community and recommend places historic signs should be located. Ben Wetmore volunteered to design the signs.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Grants** Joel Cluskey will ask Bill Callahan to recommend whether there are PHMC grants that might be used for one or all of the following: brick streets, historic sign design and fabrication, creation of a pattern book based on the Virginia Manor design guide.

**Depaul Institute** Mitigation is proceeding and Memorandum of Understanding should be signed shortly. Plan is to donate some requested artifacts along with photographs to the historical society. Contractor Ernie Sota also will make a \$1000 donation to the society.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is Monday, September 19, at 5 p.m. in the municipal building.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 6:05.